

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the original abstract with the enclosed replacement abstract provided on a separate sheet.

ABSTRACT

A wireless access system and method ~~are provided by which the wireless communications areas covered by a single access point is~~ are increased while maintaining the maintainability of the access point, minimizing an increase in system costs, and avoiding the a hidden terminal problem. Specifically, the system includes ~~An~~ an access point (12) and terminals (16a to 16e) ~~that are~~ connected via a master station (13), an optical multiplexing/demultiplexing section (14), and slave stations (15a to 15e). A downstream signal to the terminals (16a to 16e) from the access point (12) is transmitted such that the master station (13) outputs the downstream signal to each of the slave stations (15a to 15e) in a distributed manner through the optical multiplexing/demultiplexing section (14). Additionally, An ~~an~~ upstream signal to the access point (12) from any one of the terminals (for example, 16a) is transmitted to the master station (13) through a slave station (for example, 15a) and the optical multiplexing/demultiplexing section (14), and also sent to all other slave stations (for example, 15b and 15e) through the master station (13) or the optical multiplexing/demultiplexing section (14).